

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS  
FORT SMITH DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PLAINTIFF

v.

Case No. 2:19-cr-20033-001

ROBIN COX

DEFENDANT

**PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER**

**I. TRIAL SETTING**

This case is set for trial on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in Fort Smith, Arkansas, before the Honorable P. K. Holmes, III.

**II. PRETRIAL DISCOVERY AND INSPECTION**

**A. Requests for Discovery**

As the obligation for reciprocal discovery pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure arises only after a request for discovery has been made by the Defendant, the discovery obligations of the Government as set forth in this order will take effect only upon the Defendant requesting discovery either by **making a request on the record at arraignment**, which will be reflected in the Court's minutes, or by **filing a Notice of Request for Discovery within five (5) days<sup>1</sup> of the date of arraignment**.

**B. Government's Disclosures**

Within **seven (7) days** of the Defendant's request for discovery, the Government must disclose and provide copies to the Defendant's attorney of the specific materials requested under Rule 16. If the Defendant requests all Rule 16 disclosures, the Government must disclose and provide copies to the Defendant's attorney of the following materials as directed herein:

- (1) the substance of any relevant oral statement made by the Defendant, before or after arrest, in response to interrogation by a person the Defendant knew was a Government agent if the Government intends to use the statement at trial, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(A);
- (2) any relevant written or recorded statement by the Defendant if: the statement is within the Government's possession, custody, or control; and the attorney for the Government knows---or through due diligence could know---that the statement exists, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(B)(i);

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<sup>1</sup> All deadlines in this order are calculated as calendar days and not business days.

- (3) the portion of any written record containing the substance of any relevant oral statement made before or after arrest if the Defendant made the statement in response to interrogation by a person the Defendant knew was a Government agent, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(B)(ii);
- (4) the Defendant's recorded testimony before a grand jury relating to the charged offense, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(B)(iii);
- (5) the statement of any organizational Defendant in accordance with Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(C);
- (6) a copy of the Defendant's prior criminal record that is within the Government's possession, custody, or control if the attorney for the Government knows---or through due diligence could know---that the record exists, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(D);
- (7) books, papers, documents, data, photographs, tangible objects, buildings or places, or copies or portions of any of these items, if the item is within the Government's possession, custody, or control and: (i) the item is material to preparing the defense; (ii) the Government intends to use the item in its case-in-chief at trial; or (iii) the item was obtained from or belongs to the Defendant, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(E);
- (8) the results or reports of any physical or mental examination and of any scientific test or experiment if: (i) the item is within the Government's possession, custody, or control; (ii) the attorney for the Government knows---or through due diligence could know---that the item exists; (iii) and the item is material to preparing the defense or the Government intends to use the item in its case-in-chief at trial, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(F); and
- (9) a written summary of any testimony that the Government intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence during its case-in-chief at trial, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(G).

**An extension of the Government's disclosure deadline will only be granted for good cause shown.**

The following material must be disclosed as noted below. The Court encourages the early disclosure of the following material in order to avoid any unnecessary delay in the trial of this case.

- (1) The Government must provide reasonable notice of the general nature of any evidence of the Defendant's other crimes, wrongs, or acts that---although inadmissible to prove the Defendant's bad character---the Government believes to be admissible for other purposes, such as proof of motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity or absence of mistake or accident, concerning any instant charge, in accordance with Fed. R. Evid. 404(b).
- (2) *Brady* material: Any evidence which might tend to exculpate Defendant, mitigate punishment, or impeach testimony which may be determinative of Defendant's guilt or innocence should be disclosed as soon as reasonably possible. *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963).
- (3) *Jencks Act* material: Statements of witnesses the Government intends to call at trial must be disclosed by not later than immediately after the witness has testified on direct examination. 18 U.S.C. § 3500; *see also United States v. Green*, 151 F.3d 1111, 1115 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1998).
- (4) *Giglio* material: Evidence of plea agreements or other promises made by the Government to a witness must be disclosed by not later than immediately prior to the testimony of the witness to whom such material relates, *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972).

**C. Decision not to Disclose**

The Government may decline to make any one or more of the disclosures set forth in paragraph "B," if in the judgment of the Government, **it would not be in the interests of justice to make such disclosure.** In that event the Government must, **by the disclosure deadline,** make such declination in writing, directed to Defendant's counsel, and shall specify the types of disclosures that are declined. If the Defendant seeks to challenge the declination, Defendant should proceed pursuant to paragraph "F" below.

**D. Defendant's Disclosures**

To the extent the Government has provided Rule 16 disclosures, within **five (5) days** thereafter the Government may seek reciprocal disclosures from the Defendant by filing a written "Notice of Request for Discovery." The Defendant shall have **five (5) days** from the date of receipt of the Notice within which to provide the Government copies of the following, to the extent the Government has provided such to the Defendant:

- (1) books, papers, documents, data, photographs, tangible objects, buildings or places, or copies or portions of any of these items if: (i) the item is within the Defendant's possession, custody, or control; and (ii) the Defendant intends to use the item in the Defendant's case-in-chief at trial, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(b)(1)(A); and
- (2) the results or reports of any physical or mental examination and of any scientific test or experiment if: (i) the item is within the Defendant's possession, custody, or control; and (ii) the Defendant intends to use the item in the Defendant's case-in-chief at trial, or intends to call the witness who prepared the report and the report relates to the witness's testimony, Fed. R. Crim. P. 16 (b)(1)(B).

**An extension of the Defendant's disclosure deadline will only be granted for good cause shown.**

The following material should be disclosed as noted below. The Court encourages the early disclosure of the following material in order to avoid any unnecessary delay in the trial of this case.

- (1) The Defendant must, at the Government's request, give to the government a written summary of any testimony that the Defendant intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence as evidence at trial, if: (i) the Defendant requests disclosure under subdivision (a)(1)(G) and the Government complies; or (ii) the Defendant has given notice under Rule 12.2(b) of an intent to present expert testimony on the Defendant's mental condition. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(b)(1)(C). Such disclosure should also be made **within 5 days of the Government's notice of request for discovery if disclosure is mandated pursuant to subsection (i). If the Defendant gives notice under Rule 12.2(b), the Government does not need to make a separate request for disclosure if it has already filed a notice of request for disclosure that encompasses this subsection. Rather, in such case, the Defendant must provide the disclosures mandated under subsection (ii) at the time that notice is given under Rule 12.2(b).**

Similarly, the Defendant will not be obligated to make a separate request for disclosure under Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(G) if he or she has already filed a notice of request for disclosure that encompasses that subsection. Rather, in such case, the Government must give the Defendant a written summary of testimony that the government intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence as evidence at trial on the issue of Defendant's mental condition **within 5 days of service of a proper Rule 12.2(b) notice---**with disclosures as outlined in the above paragraph---by the Defendant. The summary provided must describe the witness's opinions, the bases and reasons for those opinions, and the witness's qualifications.

- (2) After a witness other than the defendant has testified on direct examination, the court, on motion of a party who did not call the witness, will order an attorney for the Government or the Defendant and the Defendant's attorney to produce, for the examination and use of the moving party, any statement, as defined by Rule 26.2(f), of the witness that is in their possession and that relates to the subject matter of the witness's testimony. Fed. R. Crim. P. 26.2(a). The parties should be prepared to provide such statements, upon motion, immediately after a witness testifies on direct examination.

**E. Information not Subject to Disclosure:**

Except as provided in Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16(a)(1), the Government is not obligated to disclose reports, memoranda, or other internal government documents made by an attorney for the government or other government agent in connection with investigating or prosecuting the case. Nor does this rule authorize the discovery or inspection of statements made by prospective government witnesses except as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 3500. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(2).

Except for scientific or medical reports, the Defendant is not obligated to disclose (A) reports, memoranda, or other documents made by the defendant, or the defendant's attorney or agent, during the case's investigation or defense; or (B) a statement made to the defendant, or the defendant's attorney or agent, by: (i) the defendant; (ii) a government or defense witness; or (iii) a prospective government or defense witness. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(b)(2).

The Government is directed to maintain the "field notes" of any Government agent made during the investigation of this case. These notes are not discoverable except on separate Order of the Court.

**F. Motions to Compel**

In the event either party seeks discovery or inspection of material the other party has elected not to disclose, the requesting party may file a motion to compel disclosure. Such motion must be filed within ten (10) days after the receipt of the declination to disclose by the opposing party. **In order to be considered by the Court, any motion to compel disclosure must contain:**

- (1) a statement that the parties have conferred in good faith on the specific issue or issues in

dispute and that they are not able to resolve their disagreements without intervention of the Court; and

(2) the date of said conference.

In order to expedite the Court's consideration, the motion should make clear the specific discovery or inspection issue in dispute.

**The failure to file a timely motion to compel may result in the waiver of any objection to the declination to disclose.**

**G. Continuing Duty to Disclose**

Any party's duty of disclosure and discovery set forth in this order is a continuing one. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(c).

**III. OTHER DEFENSES, OBJECTIONS AND REQUESTS**

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 12(c), the Court requires that any defense, objection or request capable of determination without trial of the general issue<sup>2</sup> must be raised by written motion filed not later than fourteen (14) days prior to the trial date set by the Court. Any response to such a motion must be filed within seven (7) days after service of the motion. These time limits shall not apply, however, in the event the Government has not provided discovery to the Defendant.

**IV. JURY INSTRUCTIONS**

To the extent possible, the parties should confer regarding the proposed instructions in an attempt to narrow areas of disagreement and should submit an AGREED set of instructions on specific issues in the case to the Court on or before **December 2, 2019**. Standard instructions should be used whenever possible and the citation should be noted at the end of each instruction. NOTE: DO NOT include the standard opening and closing instructions unless a modification from a standard instruction is requested. A party requesting an instruction that cannot be agreed upon must submit that instruction to the Court and to opposing counsel, setting out the disagreement by the same date. Instructions may be submitted electronically to

[pkhinfo@arwd.uscourts.gov](mailto:pkhinfo@arwd.uscourts.gov).

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<sup>2</sup> Those matters include, but are not limited to, those listed in Fed. R. Crim. P. 12(b)(3): (1) defects in the institution of the prosecution, (2) defects in the indictment, (3) suppression of evidence, and (4) severance under Fed. R. Crim. P. 14. Also included, without limitation, are (5) selective or vindictive prosecution, (6) outrageous Governmental misconduct, (7) misjoinder, (8) pre-indictment delay, (9) speedy trial, (10) prejudicial publicity, (11) lack of personal jurisdiction, (12) *Posse Comitatus* Act [18 U.S.C. 1385], (13) recantation as a defense to perjury, (14) limitations, (15) double jeopardy, (16) multiple sentencing, and (17) immunity.

Each party must submit to the Court by that same date a concise statement of the case, no more than one page in length, that it proposes would be proper to read to the panel of venire persons during voir dire.

**V. CHANGE OF PLEA**

In the event of a decision to enter a plea of guilty, the Court and counsel opposite must be advised in writing or by e-mail no later than ten (10) days prior to trial. A copy of the signed plea agreement must also be submitted to the court at [pkhinfo@arwd.uscourts.gov](mailto:pkhinfo@arwd.uscourts.gov). **Any pleas received after ten (10) days prior to trial will be open** (i.e. the defendant will be pleading guilty without the benefit of a plea agreement) unless the Court, for good cause, grants an extension. Extensions must be requested at least ten (10) days prior to trial. A case will not be removed from the trial docket until a signed plea agreement has been received and a date and time have been set for the defendant to enter a plea of guilty.

**ENTERED THIS 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2019.**

*/s/ Mark E. Ford*

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HONORABLE MARK E. FORD  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE